Article 06

September, 1980

Region 5

RESERVOIR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

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MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives regarding reservoir fisheries management in Region 5 can generally be combined into two broad categories. They are fishing regulations and fish stocking. Both are under the direct control of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. More specific discussions regarding each category follows:

Fishing regulations are primarily used to control the harvest of game fish and add sporting value to fishing by controlling distribution of anglers and to accomodate other water uses such as waterfowl nesting or irrigation interests.

Fishing regulations for reservoirs in Region 5 are three types. These are: (1) General season; (2) Year around season and (3) Special regulations. A description of each is as follows:

(1) General Season-This is the statewide fishing season when one can fish most waters. It usually starts in late May and continues through November. The closed period in winter and spring allows game fish to spawn unmolested. This season applies to nearly all streams in the region and was originally developed to accomodate the needs of stream-spawning salmonids. Reservoirs covered by general season regulations are not mentioned in the fishing regulations and the statewide fishing regulations apply.

(2) Year Around Season-Waters covered by this type regulation are open to fishing anytime during the year. They are open to provide anglers an opportunity to fish other than during the general season and/or to adequately harvest fish species not readily taken during the general season. Most year around reservoirs support warm water game fish and hatchery origin trout with little or no naural reproduction of trout. Each water opened to year around fishing is listed in the general fishing regulations.

(3) Special Regulations-These are in effect for a particular water or area only. Examples would be boat and/or motor restrictions and a different opening date or bag limit than the general season. In some instances fishing regulations reflect the desires of reservoir owners so that continued public access is assured.

In the past, we have provided a mix of general season and year around fishing reservoirs. In many cases this is not for biological reasons but for social. Most of Region 5's general season reservoirs are extremely crowded on the opening weekend. Since Memorial Day occurs during this time, it gives anglers additional fishing opportunity. If more reservoirs were opened to year around fishing, crowds would be intensified on the remaining general season waters. Also, fingerling or catchable trout are not available in the required numbers to maintain present catch rates in more year around fishing waters than presently exist. Additional waters opened to year around fishing would put greater demands on existing trophy or wild fish populations in remaining general season waters due to additional opening weekend crowds.

Most reservoirs are planted annually with catchable rainbow trout as water carryover is often not sufficient to maintain good fish populations. In addition, hatchery catchable size trout grow rapidly and provide an excellent return to the creel during the spring and summer of the year they are stocked. Cutthroat fry are planted in reservoirs where spawning is possible and water levels are such that annual carryover is not affected. Warm water fish species are planted in reservoirs where their survival and the possible establishment of a fishable population is good.

A discussion of the various fish species and stocking sizes are as follows:

(1) Rainbow Trout-This trout is easy to raise and provides the best return to the creel; therefore, it is the most commonly planted. Rainbows under present hatchery operations are available in the greatest size range for planting (fry through catchables).

(2) Cutthroat Trout-The Henry's Lake or Snake River cutthroat stock is most commonly planted. It is available in large numbers and generally planted as fry as they are difficult to rear in a hatchery to catchable size. Other stocks of cutthroat planted in Region 5 are the Snake River fine spotted and Bear Lake varieties. These two cutthroat will be covered in discussion of the appropriate waters.

(3) Other Trout-Brown and mackinaw are periodically planted in certain waters, generally at fingerling size. Eastern brook trout also occur in the region but are seldom stocked because present populations are sufficient.

(4) Spiny Ray and Other Species-Bullhead and channel catfish, walleyes, yellow perch, black crappie, bluegill and largemouth bass occur in regional waters. Availability of fish and lack of suitable habitat limits their distribution to a few reservoirs.

SNAKE RIVER DRAINAGE RESERVOIRS

DESCRIPTION AND ALTERNATIVES

American Falls Reservoir

Location: Section 30, Township 7 South, Range 31 East, B.M.

Water Source: Snake River

Ownership: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Surface/capacity: 56 M acres/1.7 acre feet
mm

Regulations: Year around season and general limit

Stocking: 75 M rainbow catchables, mid-April

Other Species: Yellow perch, crappie, brown trout, bullheads, carp, suckers, chubs, shiners

History:

American Falls Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. Trout are planted in the reservoir ~~fishery through~~ mid-May through mid-July, then the majority migrate downstream out of the reservoir due to the algae die-offs and resultant low oxygenated water. Hence, the reservoir serves to provide a fishery and acts as a rearing area for fish who move downstream into the Snake River in mid and late summer. Carryover of trout and spiny rays is poor; consequently, only catchables are planted in the reservoir. Trout in the creel average about one pound; however, two pounders are common and occasionally one up to five pounds is taken. Fish sizes depend on how early the fish were planted, date caught and growing conditions that year. During some years, yellow perch and/or crappie have contributed significantly to the creel. Catch rates of anglers are shown in the attached table.

Management Options:

Year around fishing. The reservoir has been opened to year around fishing to provide fishing opportunity and increase its catch of spiny rays. Since the reservoir receives a considerable amount of fishing pressure at all times of the year, this is probably the most viable option.

American Falls Reservoir (Continued)

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number Anglers Checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught Rainbow trout	Yellow perch	Fish per Hour	Angler
494	1,230	475	6	.4	1.0

McTucker Ponds

Location: Section 31, Township 4 South, Range 33 East, B.M.

Water Source: Springs

Ownership: U. S. Bureau of Reclamation

Surface/capacity: Three ponds total, ten surface acres and 100 acre feet

Regulation: Year around season and general limit

Stocking: Catchable rainbow, largemouth bass, bluegill, plant when available

Other Species: Chubs, suckers, bullheads

History:

McTucker Ponds are three small gravel ponds near the upper end of American Falls Hatchery. The ponds were completed and treated with rotenone the fall of 1978 to remove undesirable species. Spring inflow precluded an effective treatment project and the ponds still contain some non-game fish. The ponds were first planted with trout in the fall of 1978 and opened to year around fishing in 1979. They were also planted with largemouth bass and bluegill in 1979.

Management Options:

Year around fishing. These three small gravel pits are opened to year around fishing to provide additional fishing opportunity and harvest of the spiny ray fishes.

Springfield Reservoir

Location: Section 14, Township 4 South, Range 32 East, B.M.

Water Source: Springfield Creek

Ownership:

Surface/capacity: 66 acres/350 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limits

Stocking: 16 M rainbow catchables, before and during season

Other Species: Utah chubs, Utah suckers

History:

Springfield Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable rainbows. Attempts to establish a largemouth bass and bluegill population have also been made in the past but appear unsuccessful. Fishing pressure at the reservoir is heavy, especially considering its size. The reservoir is fed by a spring and fluctuates little. Conditions for trout carryover are good; however, most get harvested the year of planting so in reality it is low. The inflow spring has a mud bottom; therefore, poor spawning habitat and little, if any, trout spawning takes place there. Gill nets set in the reservoir in the fall of 1979 captured 17 hatchery rainbow, 73 Utah chubs and five Utah suckers. Consideration could be given to treating the reservoir; however, it is doubtful if one could obtain a good kill due to the spring inflow which occurs in it. Catch rates of anglers are shown in the attached table.

Management Options:

General season. The reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery so as fishing pressure is better distributed.

Year around season or an open-close-open season. The reservoir could be opened to year around fishing or opened during the winter months, closed, then opened with the general season. Both options would probably require additional plants of catchable trout and require some safety considerations.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout cauqht	Trout per Hour	Trout per Angler
749	1,931	1,303	.7	1.7

PORTNEUF RIVER DRAINAGE RESERVOIRS-DESCRIPTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Hawkins Reservoir

Location: Section 35, Township 10 South, Range 35 East, B.M.

Water Source: Hawkins Creek

Ownership: Marsh Center Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 40 acres/880 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit

Stocking: 15 M rainbow catchables, before season opening

Other Species: Redside shiner

History:

Hawkins Reservoir historically has been managed as a general season fishery based on the stocking of catchable size rainbow trout. It contains poor habitat for the establishment of a wild trout population because of the lack of suitable spawning habitat. Bank and boat fishing are both popular with most trout being taken on bait. Some fly fishing also occurs. Rainbow to ten pounds have been caught at the reservoir, but the average fish is in the range of .5 to 1.0 pounds.

Management Options:

General season. This reservoir has been maintained as a general season fishery as all fish taken are hatchery planted trout. Also, its general opening serves to better distribute fishing pressure.

Year around season. This reservoir could be opened to year around fishing; however, increased fish plants should be made to maintain its present catch rate. This would effect other year round waters by probably reducing the spiny ray catch and general season waters by increasing opening weekend crowds.

Creel Census-1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout caught	Trout per Hour	Trout per Angler
809	1,665	648	.4	.8

Wiregrass Reservoir

Location: Section 12, Township 11 South, Range 36 East, B.M.

Water Source: Wiregrass Creek

Ownership: Marsh Center Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 6 acres/71 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit, no motorized boats

Stocking: 5 M rainbow catchables, before season opening

Other Species: None

History:

Wiregrass Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. It contains poor habitat for the establishment of a wild trout population because of the lack of suitable spawning habitat. Growth of the planted trout is good with an average early season weight of .5 pounds and a weight by late July at maximum drawdown and virtually the end of the fishing season of about 1.0 pounds.

Management Options:

General season. As all fish taken from this reservoir are hatchery planted trout it has been maintained as a general season fishery. In addition, its general season opening serves to better distribute fishing pressure.

Year around season. This reservoir could be opened to year around fishing; however, increased fish plants should be made to maintain its present catch rate. In addition, it is not accessible to the general fishing public during the winter and early spring months.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout caught	Hour	Trout per Angler
298	772	379	.5	1.3

Twenty Four Mile Reservoir

Location: Section 16, Township 6 South, Range 39 East, B.M.

Water Source: Twenty Four Mile Creek

Ownership: Chesterfield Canal and Reservoir Company

Surface/capacity: 44 acres/700 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit, no motorized boats

Stocking: 8 M rainbow catchables, before season opening

Other Species: Utah chubs

History:

Twenty Four Mile Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. It contains poor habitat for the establishment of wild trout populations, primarily because of the lack of suitable spawning area. Rainbow up to five pounds are occasionally caught, but the average size of the trout is between .5 and 1.0 pounds depending on the time of year caught. Catch rates of anglers during the years 1975 through 1979 are shown in the attached table.

In 1974 at a low water level, the reservoir basin was treated with fintrol to eliminate undesirable fish species. Unfortunately, high numbers of Utah chubs are again present in the reservoir.

Management Options:

General season. Since the reservoir is accessible to the general public only during the late spring, summer and fall months, it should be maintained as a general season fishery. All trout taken are hatchery stocked fish and the general opening serves to better distribute fishing pressure.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout caught	Trout per Hour	Trout per Angler
744	2,773	913	.3	1.2

Chesterfield Reservoir

Location: Section 19, Township 6 South, Range 39 East, B.M.

Water Source: Portneuf River

Ownership: Portneuf-Marsh Valley Canal Company

Surface/capacity: 1,600 acres/23.695 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: 15 M rainbow catchable, spring and fall plants
100 M cutthroat, Henry's Lake, fry 40 M brown trout, fingerling

Other Species: Carp, Utah chub, redside shiner, dace

History:

Chesterfield Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based primarily on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. It was drained to dead storage and treated with rotenone during the 1977 drought to eradicate carp and Utah chubs. Unfortunately, some tributaries were not treated and carp and chubs are again present. Annual plants of Henry's Lake cutthroat fry were started after treatment with the intention of starting a self-perpetuating population which could spawn in the Portneuf River and Toponce Creek. Plants of brown trout were started in 1979 to serve as a predator on the chub population and provide a potential trophy fishery. We plan to continue these plants of cutthroat and brown trout through the time required to establish natural spawning runs, evaluate their contribution to the fishery and effects on the non-game fish population.

Trout grow rapidly in the reservoir and a good number carryover most years. Historically it has been recognized as a trophy fishery with rainbow up to 12 pounds being caught. In 1979, two years after treatment, numerous fish in the five pound class were being taken. Presently the average size of the trout caught is from one to three pounds with the brown trout catch being insignificant. The possibility of catching a large trout, all weather access and year around fishing results in the reservoir being a popular fishing area; however, crowds of anglers are generally not a problem because of the reservoir's size.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir is opened to year around fishing to provide angling opportunity and to give anglers a chance to catch a trophy size trout.

General season. The reservoir could be opened to general season fishing but the number of trophy size trout which are generally taken in the winter would probably be lower.

Chesterfield Reservoir (Continued)

Limit Restriction. A limit restriction could be established for this reservoir as many anglers are fishing for the larger fish; however, drawdowns during low water years. could seriously effect the number of trophy size trout present.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Trout caught		Trout per	
		Rainbow	Cutthroat	Hour	Angler
1,699	7,439	1,487	34	.2	.9

Gill Netting, 1970-1979:

	Number fish caught					
Year	Hatchery rainbow	Rainbow origin. unknown	Brown trout	Cutthroat	Utah chubs	Carp
1970		14	-	2	565	
1977 (Before treatment)	3	-			84	8
1978	15	6	-	3	4	-
1979	10		2	6	41	2

BLACKFOOT RIVER DRAINAGE RESERVOIRS

DESCRIPTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Blackfoot Reservoir

Location: Township 5 and 6 South, Range 41 and 42 East, B.M.

Water Source: Blackfoot River

Ownership: U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs

Surface/capacity: 19,000 acres/410,000 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit, boat restriction to protect geese

Stocking: 100 M catchable rainbows
50 M catchable fine spotted cutthroat
300 M rainbow fingerlings

Other Species: Chubs, suckers, carp, shiners, dace

History:

Blackfoot Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of rainbow and cutthroat trout. Periodically plants of coho have been made in the reservoir with only marginal success. Both bank and boat fishing is popular at the reservoir with boat anglers having greater success. The reservoir also contains large numbers of nongame fish and was treated in 1961 to reduce their numbers. Unfortunately, this treatment was only marginally successful.

Historically the reservoir has been noted for its large trout, both rainbow and cutthroat. Presently trout up to three pounds are common and occasionally one in the five pound class is taken. During the past twenty years the size of trout taken by anglers has become considerably smaller. The specific reasons for this size decline is unknown. Due to this apparent size reduction and a possible reduction in trout numbers, a research study was started on this system in 1978. Various changes in the fishing regulations could be considered when the results of this research is in.

Blackfoot Reservoir (Continued)

Management Options:

General season. The reservoir has been maintained as a general season fishery to better distribute fishing pressure and possibly prevent overharvest of game fish species. This is probably the only viable option considering the reservoir's trout population, winter concentration of game fishes and poor access.

Other Information:

A considerable amount of fish population information has been collected at Blackfoot Reservoir. Specific information regarding its fish population and fishery can be obtained from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Dike Lake

Location: Section 6, Township 7 South, Range 4 East, B.M.

Water Source: Seep from Blackfoot Reservoir

Ownership: U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs

Surface/capacity: 35 acres/200 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit, December; no limit

Stocking: 10 M catchable rainbows, before season opening

Other Species: None

History:

Dike Lake has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable rainbows and annual winterkills of all fish present. It appears that most fish, if not caught, winterkill by January 1 due to a build-up and die-off of aquatic vegetation, snow and ice cover. Therefore, its fishing season was extended through December at which time there is no limit in effect. Trout growth is rapid due to the lake's productivity and catchables planted three per pound in early May often average one pound in the fall. Numerous attempts have been made to eliminate the winter kill problem. They include siphons, windmills, agitators, air pumps and aquatic herbicides which all have either proved unsuccessful or uneconomical.

Management Options:

General season with extension. The past few years the lake has opened to fishing during the general season and closed at the end of December. The general opening has been helpful to distribute fishing pressure and the late closing has allowed a harvest on trout that would soon winterkill.

Year around season. A year around season could be put in effect at Dike Lake; however, with the closeness of Blackfoot Reservoir some enforcement problems may result. Also, anglers would be fishing a lake which did not have any fish in it during certain times of the year.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout caught	Trout per Hour	Trout per Angler
79	142	100	.7	1.3

BEAR RIVER DRAINAGE RESERVOIRS-DESCRIPTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Alexander Reservoir

Location: Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 41 East, B.M.

Water Source: Bear River-mainstem

Ownership: Utah Power and Light Company

Surface/capacity: 1,165 acres/11,000 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: None

Other Species: Yellow perch, Utah suckers, Utah chubs, carp

History:

Alexander Reservoir is a water storage production facility on the mainstem of the Bear River. Annual plants of catchable size rainbow trout were made at this reservoir but this was discontinued in 1972 because of low returns. Presently, the reservoir receives virtually no fishing pressure but it serves to improve water quality of the Bear River downstream by settling out silt. It also is a popular boating area.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir is opened to year around fishing to provide angling opportunity. Due to the small amount of fishing pressure it receives it could be either opened to year around or on a general season without making much difference.

The possible introductions of other fish species such as channel catfish or walleyes could be investigated.

Gill Netting, 1971 and 1972:

Rainbow trout	Yellow perch	Carp	Utah Sucker	Utah chub
4	65	47	108	4

Bear Lake

Location: Bear Lake County, Idaho; Cache County, Utah

Water Source: Bear River

Ownership: Public with some Utah Power and Light Company storage

Surface/capacity: 77,000 acres/1,300,000 acre feet

Regulations: Year around with special limits and regulations

Stocking: (Both states) One million catchable cutthroat (Bear Lake variety), catchable rainbows and mackinaw when available

Other species: Whitefish, cisco, yellow perch, sculpin, Utah sucker, Utah chub, carp

History: Historically Bear Lake contained a population of large cutthroat trout. This population gradually was lost due to factors such as irrigation demands, commercial fishing and lack of suitable spawning and rearing habitat. The lake has been stocked with a number of different fish species; some have proved successful such as the establishment of a wild rainbow population, and others unsuccessful such as the coho and kokanee plants. The lake also contains four endemic fish species found only in Bear Lake. They are the Bear Lake sculpin, Bonneville cisco, Bear Lake whitefish and Bonneville whitefish. The cisco and sculpin are probably the two most numerous fish species in the lake. Currently the states of Idaho and Utah are cooperating in a cutthroat enhancement program whereby mature fish are captured in weirs at the mouths of Swan Creek and St. Charles Creek. Eggs are taken from them and hatched with the young fish being reared in a hatchery approximately one year before being released back into Bear Lake. This research program is being evaluated by creel census and netting activities at the lake.

The lake has some unique water quality characteristics containing high concentrations of zinc, dissolved solids and more magnesium than calcium.

Management Options:

Year around season. Bear Lake is opened to year around fishing to provide angling opportunity and give anglers a chance to catch a trophy size trout. Some specific exemptions to this is in effect such as the fishing closure at the mouth of St. Charles Creek and the cisco dip net season. Any changes in the fishing regulations at Bear Lake, because of its unique location, should be throughly reviewed by the respective management agencies of each state.

Other Information:

Over the years a considerable amount of research work has been done at Bear Lake. More specific information on the lake's fish population can be obtained from publications by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the Utah division of Wildlife Resources and Utah State University.

Bloomington Lake

Location: Section 5, Township 15 South, Range 4 East, B.M.

Water Source: Bloomington Creek

Ownership: U. S. Forest Service

Surface Acres: Ten acres

Regulations: General season and limit

Stocking: 20 M cutthroat fry-Henry's Lake variety

Other Species: None

History:

Bloomington Lake is a high mountain lake west of Bloomington, Idaho. Prior to 1974 rainbow catchables were planted in this water. At that time because of erosion problems the access road was closed and annual plants of cutthroat fry started.

Management Options:

General season. Due to this lake's elevation general public access to it is limited to the summer aid fall months.

Condie Reservoir

Location: Section 14, Township 14 South, Range 39 East, B.M.

Water Source: Mink Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Twin Lakes Canal Company

Surface/capacity: 117 acres/1,952 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: 15 M rainbow catchables, spring and fall

Other Species: Largemouth bass, bluegill

History:

Condie Reservoir has been managed as a year around season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout, its bluegill and largemouth bass population. It contains poor trout spawning habitat; therefore, the establishment of a wild trout population has not been attempted. It is a popular winter fishery for trout and a spring fishery for spiny rays. The average rainbow trout size is about .5 pound with the bass and bluegill populations stunted.

Management Options:

Year around season. This reservoir is opened to year around fishing to increase the harvest of spiny rays from it and provide additional angling opportunity.

General season. The reservoir could be opened only during the general fishing season; however, this would reduce the catch of spiny rays from it considerably.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught: Hatchery rainbow	Bluegill	Largemouth Bass	Fish per Hour	Fish per Angler
97	230	39	124	4	.7	1.7

Gill Netting; 1979:

Hatchery rainbow caught	Bluegill caught
17	3

Foster Reservoir

Location: Section 13, Township 15 South, Range 39 East, B.M.

Water Source: Cub River, Worm Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Preston-Whitney Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 146 acres/3,500 acre feet

Regulations: Year around fishing, general limit, no motorized boats

Stocking: 10 M rainbow catchables, spring and fall plants Other

Species: Utah chub, cutthroat, bluegill

History:

Foster Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. It is one of the few year around fishing waters without a significant spiny ray fish population. It contains poor habitat for the establishment of a wild trout population because of annual high draw downs, low carryover and no spawning habitat. Growth of planted rainbow trout is poor, possibly because of competition with the Utah chubs present. The reservoir was treated with fintrol to eradicate its chub population in 1974. Gill netting in 1978 indicated that a high population of chubs were again present in the reservoir and that it should be again treated when economical.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir has been opened to year around fishing to provide additional fishing opportunity.

General season or Open Season. Since spiny rays are not common in the harvest, additional trout are planted here because of the present season. Therefore, consideration could be given to having either a general season or a winter ice fishing season followed by a closure, then reopening the reservoir with the general season.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout caught	Trout per Hour	Trout per Angler
36	71	34	.5	.9

Gill Netting, 1978:

Utah Chubs	Rainbow	Cutthroat	Bluegill
244	13	2	1

Glendale Reservoir

Location: Section 8, Township 15 South, Range 40 East, B.M.

Water Source: Cub River, Worm Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Preston-Whitney Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 230 acres/ 6,000 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit

Stocking: 7 M rainbow catchables, before season opening

Other Species: Rainbow, cutthroat, bluegill, mountain suckers

History:

Glendale Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. A few rainbow and cutthroat which appear to be of wild origin are found in the reservoir. They are probably downstream migrants from the Cub River. It contains poor habitat for the establishment of a self-sustaining trout population because of high drawdowns, low carryover and lack of suitable spawning area. The establishment of a self-sustaining bluegill population may have occurred here as one was netted in 1978 and some seen in 1979. In addition, during high water levels a substantial amount of vegetative cover is available to these fish.

The reservoir was treated with fintrol in 1974 to eradicate its high chub population. Consideration should be given to another treatment project here if water levels become low enough so that it is economically feasible.

Bank and boat fishing are both popular at this reservoir, with most trout being taken on bait. Average trout size is in the range of .5 to 1.0 pounds.

Management Options:

General season. This reservoir has been maintained as a general season fishery as its general opening serves to better distribute fishing pressure.

Year around season. One option regarding this reservoir would be to open it to year around fishing since it contains spiny rays. This may require additional trout plants.

Glendale Reservoir (Continued)

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout caught	Bluegill caught	Fish per Hour	Fish per Angler
51	240	71	61	.6	2.6

Gill Netting, 1978:

Hatchery rainbow	Rainbow	Cutthroat	Bluegill	Mountain sucker
1	4	5	1	27

Johnson Reservoir

Location: Section 20, Township 15 South, Range 40 East, B.M.

Water Source: Worm Creek (off stream) Ownership:

Preston-Whitney Reservoir Company

Surface/capacity: 50 acres/850 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: 8 M rainbow catchables, spring and fall plants

Other Species: Yellow perch, largemouth bass

History:

Johnson Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable rainbows, its yellow perch and largemouth bass populations. It contains excellent habitat for the spiny ray species and is a popular fishing spot for them, especially during the winter ice fishing months and early in the spring. Largemouth bass up to five pounds are occasionally taken from the reservoir; however, average size is about .5 pound. Yellow perch average between .2 and .4 pound depending on the year. Due to heavy fishing pressure and reservoir drawdowns trout carryover is poor with the average size caught between .3 and .4 pound.

Management Options:

Year around season. A year around fishing season has been in effect at this reservoir in order to adequately harvest its spiny ray fishes and provide additional winter fishing opportunity. This is probably the only viable option considering its fish population and the timing of its fishing pressure.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow	Yellow perch	Largemouth bass	Hour	Fish per Angler
52	108	36	33	5	.7	1.4

LaMont Reservoir

Location: Section 20, Township 15 South, Range 40 East, B.M.

Water Source: Cub River, Worm Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Preston-Whitney Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 92 surface acres, 2,400 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit

Stocking: 4 M catchable rainbow, before season opening

Other Species: Rainbow cutthroat hybrids, Utah chubs

History:

LaMont Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. Although a few large rainbow cutthroat hybrids are found in this reservoir it contains poor habitat for the establishment of a wild trout population. The planted catchable rainbows do poorly, possibly because of competition with the chubs. The reservoir should be treated to reduce its chub population when water levels are low and it becomes economical. The few large hybrids are seldom caught and probably utilize the high Utah chub population as a food source. Most trout caught are about .3 pound and have been planted that year.

Management Options:

General season. The reservoir is opened during the general season to better distribute fishing pressure.

Year around season. The reservoir could be opened to fishing year around; however, this may require additional fish plants and concentrate fishing pressure on other waters.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Rainbow trout cauqht	Hour	Trout Angler
10	14	10	.7	1.0

Gill Net Catches, 1978:

Hatchery rainbow	Rainbow cutthroat hybrids	Utah chubs
10	7	831

Montpelier Reservoir

Location: Section 27, Township 12 South, Range 45 East, B.M.

Water Source: Montpelier Creek

Ownership: Montpelier Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 132 acres/3,840 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season and general limit, no motorized boats

Stocking: 8 M rainbow catchables, spring and summer plants
50 M cutthroat (Henry's Lake)

Other Species: Brown trout

History:

Montpelier Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout and cutthroat fry. It contains poor habitat for spiny ray fishes and excellent habitat for the establishment of a wild trout population. Bank and ice fishing is popular with most trout being taken on bait. In addition to its rainbow and cutthroat, some brown trout have been caught.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir has been opened to year around fishing to provide additional fishing opportunity.

General season. A general fishing season could be put into effect at this reservoir; however, it is a popular winter fishery and a considerable distance to comparable waters.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number trout caught		Trout per	
		Rainbow	Cutthroat	Hour	Angler
39	77	36	4	.5	1.0

Nash Reservoir

Location: Section 26, Township 15 South, Range 38 East, B.M.

Water Source: Weston-Dayton Slough

Ownership: H. Warn Nielson, et al.

Surface/capacity: 13 acres/75 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: None

Other Species: Yellow perch, largemouth bass

History:

Nash Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on its population of yellow perch and largemouth bass. It is not planted with trout as public access is not available to anglers at the reservoir.

Management Options:

The primary management emphasis at Nash Reservoir should be the acquisition of public access. It should be continued as a year around fishing water so as its spiny ray population can be harvested.

Oneida Reservoir

Location: Section 23, Township 13 South, Range 40 East, B.M.

Water Source: Bear River

Ownership: Utah Power and Light Company

Surface/capacity: 515 acres/11,500 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limits

Stocking: Walleye fry, 500 M or more annually

Other Species: Yellow perch, Utah chubs, Utah suckers, carp

History:

Oneida Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on its yellow perch population. Historically fishing pressure has been light because of its stunted perch population and winter inaccessibility. Plants of walleye fry were started in 1976 in an attempt to establish a fishery and control the yellow perch. Some walleye were taken by anglers for the first time in 1979 and in gill nets in 1978, 1979 and 1980.

Management Option:

The most viable management option at the reservoir would be to continue the year around fishing and walleye plants.

Walleye Plants, Year and Number

1976	1977	1978	1979
525,000	1,000,000	250,000	700,000

Gill Net Catches:

Year	Yellow perch	Walleye	Mountain whitefish	Utah chub	Utah sucker	Carp
1978	633	1	2	5	46	4
1979	380	1	-	23	11	3
1980	123	20		40	8	2

Oxford Reservoir

Location: Section 22, Township 13 South, Range 38 East, B.M.

Water Source: Oxford Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Oxford Reservoir and Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 25 acres/300 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season and general limit

Stocking: None

Other Species: Largemouth bass, yellow perch, bluegill

History:

Oxford Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on its population of largemouth bass, yellow perch and bluegill. It contains poor habitat for the establishment of a wild trout population.

Management Options:

Year around season. Virtually the only viable management option for Oxford Reservoir is the continuation of its year around season. This provides additional fishing opportunity and allows for the harvest of its spiny ray fishes.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught		____	Fish per Angler
		Yellow perch	Bluegill	Hour	
8	54	32	1	.6	4.1

Treasureton Reservoir

Location: Section 2, Township 14 South, Range 39 East, B.M.

Water Source: Battle Creek

Ownership: Strongarm Reservoir Company

Surface/capacity: 143 acres/1,850 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: 15 M rainbow catchables, spring and fall plants

Other Species: Rainbow, cutthroat, carp, Utah suckers

History:

Treasureton Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. What appears to be some wild trout are present, but its lack of suitable spawning habitat restricts their numbers. Bank, boat and ice fishing are all popular at the reservoir with most trout being taken on bait. The average size of the rainbow caught is in the range of .5 to 1.0 pounds. The reservoir should be considered for treatment when water levels are such so that it is economical.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir has been opened to year around fishing to provide additional fishing opportunity and to harvest trout from it during the winter months when they taste best.

General season or open close open season. To better distribute opening weekend fishing pressure and harvest, additional spiny rays at other close opened waters, the reservoir could have a general fishing season.

Another option would be to open it during the winter ice fishing season, close it in the early spring for a couple of months and then reopen it with the general season.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Trout caught		Trout per	
		Rainbow	Cutthroat	Hour	Angler
161	461	250	15	.6	1.6

Treasureton Reservoir (Continued)

Gill Netting, 1979:

Hatchery rainbow	Rainbow	Cutthroat	Carp	Utah sucker
11	9	7	9	2

Twin Lakes

Location: Sections 14 and 24, Township 14 South, Range 38 East, B.M.

Water Source: Mink Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Twin Lakes Canal Company

Surface/capacity: 446 acres/14,000 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limits

Stocking: 20 M rainbow catchables, before and during season

Other Species: Bluegill, largemouth bass

History:

Twin Lakes has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout, its heavy fishing pressure and population of bluebill and largemouth bass. It has an excellent population of these spiny rays and a considerable amount of annual fishing pressure is exerted on them. Only catchable trout are planted in this reservoir as it contains poor trout spawning habitat. Generally, early in the season anglers either troll or still fish for trout from boats and take good spiny ray catches by either wading or the use of boats. The average trout caught at the reservoir is in the ranges of .5 to 1.0 pounds, depending on the time of year. Bluegill sizes vary, but generally average about five per pound. Largemouth bass and trout up to five pounds are also sometimes taken.

Twin Lakes can be considered somewhat of a pivotal reservoir because of its high recreational usage and fish catch. Any proposed changes in the fishing regulations at Twin Lakes should be carefully considered as to what effects it will have on pressure and catch at other waters in the region. As an example, elimination of an opening day there could cause greatly increased crowds at other opening day waters.

Management Option:

General season. A general fishing season has been in effect at Twin Lakes so as to better distribute fishing pressure during the early part of the general fishing season. To determine the most opportune time to catch bluegill, test fishing has been done with indications that June is the best month.

Twin Lakes (Continued)

Year around season. This reservoir could be opened to year around fishing but this would probably cause an uneven distribution of pressure on other general season waters. In addition, more trout stocking would be required to maintain present catch rates.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught			Fish per	
		Rainbow	Bluegill	Largemouth bass	Hour	Angler
362	753	299	439	83	1.1	2.3

Weston Reservoir

Location: Section 15, Township 15 South, Range 37 East, B.M.

Water Source: Weston Creek

Ownership: Weston Creek Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 112 acres/2,066 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit, no boats

Stocking: 8 M rainbow catchables, spring and fall

Other Species: Largemouth Bass, yellow perch

History:

Weston Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout, its yellow perch and largemouth bass populations. It is a popular fishing spot both in the winter and spring, primarily for spiny rays. Although the size of fish caught are not large, high numbers are taken annually, expecially during the winter ice fishing months when upwards to 100 anglers have been counted here on a weekend day. One problem associated with this reservoir is the lack of public access; consequently, it is closed to all boat fishing at the insistance of the landowner.

Management Options:

Year around season. A year around season has been in effect at Weston Reservoir to adequately harvest its spiny ray population and provide additional fishing opportunity. This is probably the only viable option for this reservoir considering its fish population and timing of fishing pressure.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught			Fish per	
		Rainbow	Yellow perch	Largemouth bass	Hour	Angler
326	755	187	944	23	1.5	3.5

Windor Reservoir

Location: Section 22, Township 14 South, Range 39 East, B.M.

Water Source: Mink Creek (off stream)

Ownership: Twin Lakes Canal Company

Surface/capacity: 94 acres/1,667 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit, no motorized boats

Stocking: 3 M rainbow catchables, before season opening

Other Species: Cutthroat, rainbow, green sunfish

History:

Windor Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. Historically, it has contained some green sunfish and was eradicated in 1970 to reduce their number. Generally they are small and receive little sportsman's interest. Low carryover of the planted rainbow trout occur and the reservoir contains no spawning habitat for them.

Management Options:

General season. This reservoir has been opened to fishing during the general season to distribute fishing pressure. In addition, it is not accessible to the general fishing public during the winter and early spring months.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught		Fish per	
		Rainbow	Green sunfish	Hour	Angler
53	124	55	1	.5	1.1

Gill Netting, 1979:

Hatchery rainbow	Rainbow	Cutthroat	Green sunfish
11	3	2	1

MALAD RIVER DRAINAGE RESERVOIRS

DESCRIPTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Crowthers Reservoir

Location: Section 16, Township 14 South, Range 36 East, B.M.

Water Source: Spring Creek

Ownership: Malad Valley Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 27 acres/773 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limits

Stocking: 5 M catchable rainbows, before season opening

Other Species: Yellow perch, largemouth bass

History:

Crowthers Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout. It receives fairly light fishing pressure with most coming from local residents. It contains some habitat for the establishment of a spiny ray fish population and we have received unconfirmed reports that yellow perch and largemouth bass are present in the reservoir. Two overnight gill net sets in the spring of 1979 only captured one fish, a hatchery rainbow. It appears to lack suitable habitat for trout spawning, although some cutthroat are present in the reservoir.

Management Options:

General season. The reservoir has been maintained as a general season fishery to better distribute general season fishing pressure.

Year around season or open-close-open season. The reservoir could be opened to year around fishing but this may require additional fish plants. Another possibility would be to allow some winter fishing, close it, then reopen it with the general fishing season.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Trout caught		Trout per	
		Rainbow	Cutthroat	Hour	Angler
133	544	198	28	.4	1.7

Daniels Reservoir

Location: Section 26, Township 12 South, Range 34 East, *B.M.*

Water Source: Little Malad River

Ownership: St. Johns Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 375 acres/8,700 acre feet

Regulations: General season, two fish limit

Stocking: 25 M rainbow catchables before season opening
100 M cutthroat fry (Henry's Lake)

Other Species: Utah suckers

History:

Daniels Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable rainbows and cutthroat fry. This reservoir was completed in 1967 and has a 1,000 acre feet conservation pool for fish habitat. Annual plants of cutthroat fry were started at this reservoir in 1968 and catchable rainbows in 1969. The reservoir is fed by a constant flow spring and water levels sufficient so as not to seriously affect annual carryover. During the early 1970's reservoir growing conditions were excellent and fishing pressure light. At that time numerous trout in the five pound class were taken. Fishing pressure increased annually and trout size decreased. By the late 1970's rarely was a trout weighing over three pounds caught. In 1978 and 1979 a questionnaire was used to assess angler's preferences as to the size of trout they wanted to catch. Anglers were asked if they wanted to catch fewer but larger trout; if they were happy with the size of fish they were presently catching, or did they want to catch more but smaller trout. Anglers who responded by saying they wanted to catch different size fish than presently, they then were asked how they wanted to accomplish it and were given choices between bag limit restrictions, liberalizations or changes in the length of the fishing season. As an example, a reduced limit would result in less harvest and a larger fish returned to the creel. Out of 151 anglers, 11 (7%) wanted more but smaller fish, 61 (41%) were satisfied with the size of fish they were presently catching and 79 (52%) wanted fewer but larger fish. Of the 11 wanting smaller fish, two wanted to accomplish it by year around fishing and nine by a limit liberalization. Of 79 wanting larger fish, 30 (38%) wanted to accomplish it by a reduced limit, 26 (33%) by a shorter season and 23 (29%) by a gear restriction.

Daniels Reservoir (Continued)

Gill net catches made in the spring of 1972 and 1979 indicate a change in the various fish populations. In 1972 nets captured 32 cutthroat and three hatchery rainbow. In 1979 gill nets captured 12 cutthroat, 41 hatchery rainbow and 13 Utah suckers. This same trend toward decreasing cutthroat numbers is seen in catch statistics from the reservoir. During the period 1971-1974 cutthroat made up 23% of the angler's catch and hatchery rainbow 77%. From 1975 through 1979 cutthroat made up only 4% of the catch and hatchery rainbow 96%. It also appears that a population of non-game fish have become well established.

Catch rates appear to have improved at Daniels Reservoir over the years. During the period 1971 through 1974 anglers averaged .3 fish per hour and 1.2 fish per angler. From 1975 through 1979 anglers averaged .5 fish per hour and 1.9 fish per angler.

Management Options:

General season with catch restriction. Through 1979 a general season and bag limit was in effect at this reservoir. Starting with the 1980 fishing season a two trout limit was put into effect. Until this regulation can be properly evaluated other options should not be considered.

Creel Census:

Time period	Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number fish caught		Trout per	
			Rainbow	Cutthroat	Hour	Angler
1971-1974	774	3,045	724	214	.3	1.2
1975-1979	2,339	9,020	4,271	174	.5	1.9

Deep Creek Reservoir

Location: Section 18, Township 14 South, Range 37 East, B.M.

Water Source: Deep Creek

Ownership: Deep Creek Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 1,050 acres/5,400 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit

Stocking: 20 M rainbow catchables before season opening 15
M cutthroat (Henry's Lake)

Other Species: None

History:

Deep Creek Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout and cutthroat fry. In addition, it contains cutthroat which annually migrate into its tributaries to spawn. The contribution of the progeny of these spawners make to overall cutthroat catch at the reservoir is unknown. Generally annual trout carryover is good and the reservoir fairly productive with numerous fish in the one to two pound class taken. Cutthroat and rainbow made up 18% and 82% of the catch, respectively.

Management Options:

General season. This reservoir has been maintained as a general season fishery to better distribute fishing pressure.

Year around season. The reservoir could be opened to year around fishing; however, increased fish plants should be made and increased opening weekend crowds on other reservoirs would probably occur.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number trout caught Hatchery rainbow	Cutthroat	Trout per Hour	Angler
1,134	3,176	1,230	269	.5	1.3

Gill Net Results, 1979:

Hatchery rainbow	Cutthroat
2	9

Devils Creek Reservoir

Location: Section 13, Township 13 South, Range 36 East, B.M.

Water Source: Devils Creek

Ownership: Malad Valley Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 142 acres/4,450 acre feet

Regulations: General season and limit

Stocking: 15 M rainbow catchables, before season opening
50 M cutthroat fry (Henry's Lake variety)

Other Species: Rainbow cutthroat hybrids

History:

Devils Creek Reservoir has been managed as a general season fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout and cutthroat fry. Construction was completed on this reservoir in 1969 and it contains 650 acre feet of water storage for fish habitat. Cutthroat from the reservoir annually migrate up Devils Creek, its main tributary, to spawn. The contribution made by the progeny of these spawners to the overall reservoir fishery is unknown. Annual trout carryover is good and the reservoir fairly productive with numberous trout in the one to two pound class taken. Gill net sets made in the reservoir in the spring of 1979 captured 12 cutthroat and four rainbow cutthroat hybrids.

Management Options:

General season. The reservoir has been maintained as a general season fishery to better distribute fishing pressure.

Year around season. The reservoir could be opened to year around fishing; however, increased fish plants should be made and increased opening weekend crowds on other reservoirs would probably occur.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Number trout caught		Fish per	
		Rainbow	Cutthroat	Hour	Angler
842	3,037	1,076	64	.4	1.4

Pleasantview Reservoir

Location: Section 16, Township 14 South, Range 35 East, B.M.

Water Source: Big Malad Spring

Ownership: Samaria Water and Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 47 acres/740 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season, general limit

Stocking: 2 M rainbow catchables, winter plant

Other Species: Utah chubs

History:

Pleasantview Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable size rainbow trout and significant irrigation draw-downs. It receives only light fishing pressure which occurs primarily during the winter and spring months. It contains a high population of Utah chubs which probably limits trout growth and fishing pressure. Some largemouth bass were planted in the reservoir in 1979 in an attempt to provide additional fishing opportunity and reduce its chub population. An overnight gill net set in May, 1979, captured 366 Utah chubs.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir has been opened to year around fishing as most fishing occurs in the spring and early summer when water levels are high. Virtually no fishing occurs from mid-summer through the fall as reservoir drawdown is extremely heavy during this time.

Samaria Reservoir

Location: Section 24, Township 14 South, Range 35 East, B.M.

Water Source: Malad River

Ownership: Samaria Water and Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 10 acres/40 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season and limit

Stocking: None

Other Species: Largemouth bass, carp

History:

Samaria Reservoir contains largemouth bass and carp and has been managed as a year around season fishery based on these fish species. Trout are not planted in this reservoir because of poor habitat and unavailable public access.

Management Options:

Year around season. This reservoir has been opened to year around fishing to provide for a largemouth bass harvest. To provide for a bass harvest from this reservoir this is probably the only viable alternative.

St. John's Reservoir

Location: Section 17, Township 14 South, Range 36 East, B.M.

Water Source: Birch Creek

Ownership: Malad Valley Irrigation Company

Surface/capacity: 48 acres/240 acre feet

Regulations: Year around season and limits

Stocking: 4 M rainbow catchables

Other Species: Largemouth bass, bluegill

History:

St. John's Reservoir has been managed as a year around fishery based on plants of catchable rainbows and its spiny ray populations. Trout carryover appears poor due to the lack of suitable spawning habitat. Some fishing pressure occurs at all times of the year but the most popular fishing time is in the winter and the spring. A few years ago bluegill and largemouth bass were introduced into the reservoir and it now appears to have a fairly good population of both species.

Management Options:

Year around season. The reservoir has been opened to year around fishing in order to adequately harvest its spiny ray fishes and to provide additional fishing opportunity.

General season. The reservoir could be opened only during the general fishing season; however, a reduction in catch of spiny rays from it would probably occur.

Creel Census, 1975-1979:

Number anglers checked	Number hours fished	Fish caught: Rainbow trout	Fish caught: Largemouth bass	Fish per Hour	Fish per Angler
52	185	69	45	.6	2.2